

YASH RAJ KARTHIKEY



SUCCESS

FAIL

FAIL

THE POWER OF  
**FAILURE**

## THE POWER OF FAILURE

YASH RAJ KARTHIKEY

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# INTRODUCTION

In the tapestry of human experience, failure is a thread woven intricately into the fabric of our lives. Far from being a sign of weakness or defeat, failure is a powerful force that shapes our character, fuels our resilience, and propels us toward growth. This narrative, "The Power of Failure," seeks to unravel the layers of this often-misunderstood phenomenon and illuminate the transformative potential hidden within setbacks and disappointments.

In a society that often glorifies success and achievement, the concept of failure is frequently met with fear and aversion. However, it is essential to recognize that failure is not a dead-end but rather a crossroads, offering us a choice—to succumb to despair or to embark on a journey of self-discovery and improvement. The stories of individuals who have risen from the ashes of defeat, reinventing themselves and achieving greatness, attest to the extraordinary power that failure can wield.

This exploration will delve into various aspects of failure, examining its impact on personal development, innovation, and the collective human experience. It will navigate through the landscapes of resilience, perseverance, and the invaluable lessons embedded within the tapestry of setbacks. By acknowledging the power of failure, we open ourselves to a profound understanding of the human condition and the limitless potential for growth that resides within each of us.

As we embark on this journey, let us challenge the stigma surrounding failure and embrace it as an indispensable companion on the road to success. For within the folds of failure lies a reservoir of strength waiting to be harnessed—a force that can propel us towards unparalleled achievements and a deeper understanding of ourselves. This exploration invites you to reflect on your own relationship with failure and to consider the untapped power it holds in shaping your narrative of success.

# THERE IS NO SUCCESS WITHOUT FAILURE

## 1

*Success is a lousy teacher. It seduces smart people into thinking they can't lose.*

– Bill Gates

Did you started walking without falling down? Anyone, your friends? Did you solve your first mathematics problem without any mistake? Were you able to sing that song perfectly the first time you tried? Were you able tot hit that goal or that cricket six the first time you played?

For most of these questions I guess, your answer is “No”. We people are too harsh on ourselves. Forget about the society treating us harshly, do we love ourselves, do we?

Right from the day we were born, we have this pressure sitting on our head to be successful in everybody's eyes. Do this or you're a failure, do that or you're a failure. Then why the hell did you choose to give birth to me, to impose your rules?

The primary thing you and me need to note that we are not here to be successful in their eyes. What means success to them may not mean anything to you. When we were born, did success or failure meant anything to us?

Look back and recall, what did really matter to you? Your learning or journey or is it success (failure matters for nobody)? I guess, for everyone, early in childhood, it's only the journey which matters. Success or failure doesn't. For example, earlier we could still smile on our failures, and still were focused on journey, which lead to success. The shame of failure was induced by society. It only happened when others and parents' opinions started to matter for us.

The reality is, the people who are saying depressing things to you on your time of failure, themselves never did worthwhile things in their lives (and this is true for a whole lot of them). But society wants to see you successful from day 0. If you fail once, they will stamp you like you won't ever be successful again.

But here is the reality, success starts with failure. That too, many times with a series of failures. Not one or two or three, it can be 30, 40, 50 or 100.

Even more important is to note that you won't obviously, fail, even you don't try out new things. It's like only if you go out and try doing new things (experimenting or exploring), you may fail and failure comes only to teach you what to do and how to.

Then someday after trying different things, going through failures, you will figure out, okay this is the way to go for me.

If you keep on getting successful, you just keep getting lucky. One day you aren't lucky and you have no idea (or past experience) and you don't know how do you turn unlucky days into luckier ones.

## **Key Learnings**

Don't be afraid of failure

Failure only teaches you, how to be successful and productive even in unfavorable times

# THE FEAR OF FAILURE

## 2

*Happiness can be found even in darkest times only if you remember to turn on the lights.*

*– Albus Dumbledore*

I know, you have started fearing the word “Failure” in itself. Right? You may want to delete the word failure from your life. And, you don’t want to see it ever again in your life.

But, try to recall the time when you were a child, was there any fear of failure inside of you? Then from where this fear of failure arose within you? When we were children we never even thought about success and failure. We always thought of playing, learning, cycling – even if we lost – even if we fell down – even if we got our limbs injured – we still didn’t care of the pain, but joy.

The fear of failure arose from the shame we had to experience in front of our peers and parents because of low grades or being last in some sports. Most of the time due to these socially induced situations, we start treating ourselves too harshly.

We are taught to win, not to lose, even by our teachers. Our preparations are only for success and we are rarely taught how to deal with failure. We are never really taught how to overcome failures and use them as stepping stones towards success. Mistakes are not appreciated anywhere as good tries or attempts, be it any kind of work. Due to this, everyone wants to become a winner not a loser.

But, as we discussed earlier, can you really learn anything new or even master something without ever failing at it? Haven’t you ever made a mistake in mathematics? Were you always correct? Even if you did fail and felt ashamed of your failure at something now we realize as silly, wasn’t that very same failure your real guru?

Maybe somebody is super genius, so he may not fail. But not failing ever in life in itself is a failure. The one who never failed doesn’t know the harsh realities and situations of life. And they missed the achievement of coming out of difficulties too. When you fail consistently at something, most of the fake people you are surrounded with will turn against you and these can be the people within your family.

These harsh times are of appropriate times of realization that who is really supporting you, standing with you even in your difficult and vulnerable times.

From my own experiences I have realized that, it's very less to learn from success. Failure in itself is a university. And if you learn to utilize your time with your lessons learnt from past failure, you have a powerful path towards your success. The more you make yourself better and work on yourself understanding these principles, you move faster towards your success.

That's the damn point.

Success comes from failures and is only a consequence of lessons learnt from the failure university.

Ride these stairs of short failures (learn from them) keep yourself consistently improving, until one day you master your own unique path to self-made success.

Take care

All the best wishes

With Love



*It's what you do after failure, matters the most.*

*- Unknown*

Have you ever heard this from people around you:

*Finish College with decent grades, get a decent paying job, get married*

*Have children and your life is all set.*

Does life really work like this? Everyone in life faces different set of challenges and based on those challenges and situations, you will have certain desires.

Based on these desires you take actions, make choices, plans and decisions.

If you are common person whose life has been quite normal (or if you have been deprived enough of harsh challenges in your life), you would just like to go with the path above and party for the rest of your life, or gossip about how your life or pay is superior than our so called “failed” friends.

But if you are consistently facing challenges, then just stay with me – I am a part time astrologer too (maybe) – and so powerful, that without knowing or looking at you, I can predict what you have in your mind.

- ➔ There is something within you, which doesn't want to settle for little things. You want more of it!
- ➔ You don't live for show off or “your life vs their” comparison.  
You live for your own dreams.
- ➔ You have faced more challenges than your peers (not everyone had to go through the situations) you had to.

And, these are one of the many reasons why you chose to read this book. If everything was going great with you, you might not have chosen to read this book.

I learned this from a YouTube Session of Sandeep Maheshwari (A very famous Motivational Speaker) that, if you want to understand a person what he/she will do in their life just find which are the five people they spend their maximum time with.

In this list, do include the time spent by them on YouTube (Video Creators) and Books (Authors). This means, what kinds of books they read (authors they spend time with), like right now you are spending time with me. (I am very happy about this!) And, which YouTube channels they watch (which YouTubers they are inspired by) or which are the influencers they are influenced by. These influencers need not be very famous, they can be parents, friends, teachers or celebrities too.

Just the top five are enough. And, you will find which path they are heading on to.

And, you can do it for yourself too, and understand your path and get some clarity whether you are already on the right path.

Now you have clarity, but, if you don't want to go further on the path you were currently heading on and you wish to go somewhere else (like your goals are different), this clearly means that, you are spending time with wrong people. Please change your network immediately in such cases.

*Do you think your mind never needs food? You've got this wrong. Think again.*

Your mind consumes far more food than your body ever does. Your mind consumes even the smallest information from surrounding which may or may not be useful.

The more useful information you feed into your mind, the more goal or growth oriented it will become.

Remember, it's the journey which is important, not the goal alone.

*If you keep trying, learning, tuning, you are actually never a failure, because you never gave up.*

- Yash Raj Karthikey

*It is not our abilities who we truly are. It is our choices.*

*- Albus Dumbledore*

Your Failure Teaches. But are you listening to the hidden messages? Or, when failure comes, you become depressed and stop trying any further?

Failure is a situation, where things didn't work out the way you wanted, on the lower end, which we don't want and we don't expect.

For some people, cow dung is waste useless thing which lies on the road. For people who are listening to the teachings or opportunities, cow dung is sellable and they create biogas using it.

Likewise, you may think that your failure is just a closed door. But if you look carefully, even this closed door has to open new doors for you.

I will tell you a small story from my life's experiences.

When I was 11 years old, my mom passed away. I was so dumb at that time that I even didn't realize what did I loose.

Later after few weeks, when I started searching for my mom for asking her to buy me a harry potter and the chamber of secrets book, I didn't found her. Then I looked for my dad and he left me alone with my maternal uncle and aunt and hardly came in years to see me due to his own life's hardships.

In this meantime, when I got depressed, I used to watch Doraemon, harry potter – and intriguing ideas came to my mind.

- (1) Why not make a time machine and go into the past to save my mom?
- (2) Why not find the wand from harry potter's movie to get my mom back?
- (3) Why not find a resurrection stone?
- (4) Why not create an anywhere door to bring my mom back from heaven?
- (5) Why not go to hogwarts?

Moreover, I watched Stephen Hawking's series on Discovery channel about space, time, blackholes. And these things drew me to science.

I read biology upto grade 10 in grade 6.

So, long story short, I started doing failed experiments, used to gather money from many sources, all in vain, and slowly realized that this funding issue is a big roadblock towards my research.

This was the time I had little exposure to internet and computers newly. I tried to find funding from web all in vain.

Initially I lost me and my friend's money to hackers. Intent was always right but this funding issue was big since lack of funding was a big problem.

Then I started learning programming and decided that maybe one day I will make huge money out of tech and I will start my research with my own funding.

This exposed me to programming. I am still working on this path but old goals changed with new negotiation.

I slowly realized that by these many years and after so many years I will also die and there is no point in calling my mom again from where she is.

The better path would be to make something which can improve lives of the people around me and for this my mom could be proud of me.

This little shift in my thought process drove my life into different phases of evolution. Out of this continuous evolution process comes this "Book".

So, the point is, if you are listening, failure has got "feedback" for you. When failure knocks the door you can:

- ➔ Blame others for your failure
- ➔ Plug earphones and watch Netflix for forgetting it
- ➔ Watch motivational videos

But to get over it, you need to look straight into the eyes of failure – it has got certain messages for you, only you.

What did you control in your life:

- ➔ Where you're born is not in your control
- ➔ Similarly, what did you eat
- ➔ Whom did you meet
- ➔ Which place, country, religion
- ➔ Friends, Relatives, Financial Condition

Are all you didn't choose. And what they taught you, you did accordingly.

So, what have "you" done in your life. There is very small list of things which actually "you" do in your life.

It's a metaverse game, you are playing.

The game's environment you don't control but you can control the gameplay. Winning or losing depends on the skills you build along your gameplay experience.

Like in the game, if you fail you don't quit. You learn, from what did you do wrong in the last attempt, make yourself better in the next attempts, until you finally win.

In the same way, you will win in your life too.

You will win. You are destined to win. Listen to all your failures earlier. They do still have many things to talk with you.

Here is a simple exercise:

- ➔ List all your life's failures
- ➔ Note what mistakes you did
- ➔ What you could have changed for success
- ➔ What are key takeaways for future such situations?

*You are not who you are when you are successful, it's how you respond to failures, what you do when you fail, which makes the real you.*

*- Yash Raj Karthikey*

Does failure come alone? No. It comes with its relations (in package). Criticism and Rejection are close relatives of Failure. Only if you start understanding failure, you may understand Criticism and Rejection.

You were trying to reach your goals, but you were unaware of hurdles, or things didn't work out you, as a result you "failed". Answer me: Is this failure permanent? No, right? And this applies to everyone, ants are a common example. Failure is never permanent. Yes, it tells you maybe you are hitting the nails at the wrong place. Maybe, you should set the sails in some other direction. Maybe, you should try learning this new thing. But failure is never the end. You and me understand this very well.

Now let's move to your critics. Most of the times your critics are not villains of your life (but sometimes they can be). Still, for them your life has already ended at your failure. The moment you try this new thing and probably you fail, these are the people who find the news and will come to stamp you permanently as a "FAILURE".

Don't forget, nature keeps on giving you other chances until you die. Everyday is a new chance.

But for these people your life ends at your failure. They think, you weren't be able to come out of this. The problem isn't that they think like this, but the problem is, most of the times, we also get influenced by this kind of criticism by disbelievers -> and we start thinking that we won't be able to come out of this.

Let's take an example. Let's assume you are in a university and you failed at a university examination. So, what's the big deal. Try another attempt. Anyway, you failed. Maybe if you would've passed, you would've scored lower marks. Now the university is forced to give you another chance and this time you will attempt with better preparation and get better marks.

For your critics, your life's ended on the day you failed. They will say, oh you failed at this subject -> look my son, their son, your friends got this much marks, oh you're already a looser. Now, you anyway reattempted the exam (as you didn't have any other choice), and this time you scored 100/100. At this time, they won't call you. These kinds of critiques have only "FAILURE" stamps in their hand.

Does it mean criticism is bad? Not at all. But you should choose your critiques. Critiques are valuable advisors and you have right to select your advisors once you are in your sense. By all means, a person who is your critique, should be the one who has stayed with you in both wonderful and the harshest phases of your life.

If you are failing, whatever you are facing now, will not stay forever with you. Time will change and you will grow. With growth success is a natural consequence. But in difficult times you will be able to realize, were your critiques your real valuable advisors, who were trying to help you out with their constructive criticism, by broadening your mindset? Or were they simply, demotivating you, for their selfish reasons, or even unknowingly? Are they standing in your support in difficult times? If not, you at least make a mental distinction that these people don't deserve your time and explanation. Just go on doing what you are, if you still feel it's right. If the criticism comes from your well-wishers, think again, explain and discuss your opinions with them. Even if they don't get your points completely, still they will support you to get out of your difficult times and they will definitely be a part of your success.

But there is something more in the failure family. Most of the times, you failed, you were criticized, but all this comes packaged with rejection. Rejection can come from your investors your colleagues, friends, your relationships, anyone. These are the people who read the stamp mark of critiques on your face as "FAILURES" and they believe the critiques, not you. So, at any difficult time they are bound to leave you – so why go behind looking for them – leave them all for good. Because, if you're successful, they may honor you, oh sorry, not you, but your success (temporary bad times, knock the door of successful people (achieved their goals) also and at those times people who reject you will do their rejection job. They don't have any personal love from you. They are like professional profit seekers – and for them you also should only look at your (ethical) profits. When they reject and leave you, just let them go and continue on your path. They were just small temporary characters of your story. Focus on the primary characters of

your story, who were not confident to trust on you, still they were supporting you in your difficult times, focus on them. They may or may not be your friends, parents, teachers, colleagues, anyone.



*Don't let the noise of other's opinions drown out your own inner voice.*

- Steve Jobs

Never be afraid of failures. Failure is your real teacher. Yes, but at all times, use your common sense, take small calculated risks, have your plan, re-assess yourself at each stage of growth. All this to keep track of whether you are really moving towards your success. Taking small calculated risks, well-planned, managed or backed up with plans B or C, to deal with fear of failure.

Now we will go through some stories of famous failures which turned out to be great successes worth reading about.

## ALBERT EINSTEIN

Albert Einstein is famous for his Theory of Relativity and the equation  $E=mc^2$  also has his own story of failure to success. Albert was considered a failure by many since his childhood. He didn't speak until the age of four while most children start to speak around 12-18 months from birth. While Albert was good in Maths and Physics, he wasn't good at other subjects. Due to this, he struggled to perform good in many exams which require the knowledge of many subjects.

At that time if someone would see his academic performance, it would be hard to say that one day he will achieve such great levels of excellence in research of Theoretical Physics.

## STEVE JOBS

*If I try my best and fail, well, I've tried my best.*

- Steve Jobs

Steve Jobs, the name itself is a brand. And, even after Steve Jobs passed away Apple is the most valuable company in the world with \$2.72 trillion market cap.

But Steve Jobs wasn't so successful right from the start. He had to face many challenges right from his childhood, when his biological mother left him for adoption and later he had to dropout from college.

Steve Jobs started Apple with Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne in 1976. With the leadership of Steve, Apple introduced ground breaking Apple Macintosh products. Even after Apple's growth Steve Jobs had to leave Apple due to internal conflicts within the board.

After leaving Apple, Jobs started two companies NeXT and Pixar, and through the acquisition of NeXT by Apple, he became the CEO once again for Apple.

He also had to face life threatening experiences like Pancreatic Cancer.

But even after all these setbacks and challenges right from the beginning of his life – he revolutionized the modern tech world with iPod, iPhone, iPad and Mac.

## **KALIDASA**

Kalidasa was one of the greatest poets of all time in Indian Literature and history. However, he wasn't so brilliant since his early childhood. He was observed cutting the branches of trees on which he was sitting on the edge.

He was often humiliated by everyone including his wife about his dumb intellect.

But, due to his devotion to mother Kali, he became one of the greatest poets by her grace.

It is said that Mother Kali appeared in front of him and hit his tongue, since then it is believed, whatever he spoke, became a poem in itself.

## **S Ramanujan**

*An equation means nothing to me unless it expresses a thought of god.*

*-S Ramanujan*

Srinivasa Ramanujan was an Indian Mathematician who made significant contributions to mathematical analysis, number theory, infinite series, and continued fractions. His journey from relative obscurity to recognition as brilliant mathematician is indeed a fascinating story.

Ramanujan was born on December 22, 1887, in Erode, Madras Presidency (now Tamil Nadu), India. From a young age, he showed an exceptional aptitude for mathematics,

teaching himself from books and working on problems independently. However, due to financial constraints, he faced challenges in pursuing higher education.

In 1909, Ramanujan secured a clerical position at the Port Trust Office in Madras (now Chennai). Despite his lack of formal education beyond college, he continued to pursue mathematics passionately, producing numerous theorems and results.

Ramanujan's breakthrough came in 1913 when he wrote to G.H. Hardy, a leading Britain mathematician, seeking guidance and validation of his work. Hardy, initially skeptical, was astounded by the depth and originality of Ramanujan's theorems. Recognizing the young Indian's extraordinary talent, Hardy arranged for Ramanujan to come to England in 1914.

The transition to life in England was not easy for Ramanujan. He faced cultural differences and health issues, and financial struggles. However, with Hardy's support, he began working at the University of Cambridge and collaborated with other mathematicians.

During his time in England, Ramanujan published numerous papers, contributing significantly to areas such as modular forms, mock theta functions, and partition functions. His work has profound impact on mathematics, and became a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1918.

Unfortunately, Ramanujan's health deteriorated rapidly, likely due to combination of malnutrition and illness. He returned to India in 1919 and died on April 26, 1920 at the young age of 32.

Ramanujan's story is often cited as an example of raw, innate mathematical talent overcoming significant obstacles. His notebooks, containing a wealth of unexplored mathematical ideas, continue to be studied by mathematicians worldwide. The legacy of Srinivasa Ramanujan is celebrated for the depth of his contributions to mathematics and the inspiration he provides to aspiring mathematicians facing adversity.

## **DR APJ ABDUL KALAM**

If you fail, never give up because F.A.I.L. means "First Attempt in Learning".

End is not the end; in fact, E.N.D. means "Efforts Never Die".

If you get No as an answer, remember, N.O. means "Next Opportunity".

Don't fear for facing failure in the first attempt, because even the successful maths starts with "Zero" only.

- *APJ Abdul Kalam*

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, the former President of India and renowned aerospace engineer, is often celebrated for his remarkable journey from humble beginnings to becoming one of the most respected figures in Indian History. He is often cited as an inspirational example of perseverance and determination. While it's important to note that success is a subjective concept, and Kalam had a holistic view of success that went beyond personal achievements, his professional journey does include instances of overcoming challenges.

One notable aspect of Kalam's life were his early academic struggles. He came from a modest background in Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu. Despite facing financial constraints, he was a bright and curious student. However, he initially struggled in his studies, particularly in mathematics. His grades were not exceptional, and he faced criticism for his perceived shortcomings.

One significant turning point occurred when he applied for admission to the Madras Institute of Technology. Initially Kalam was not selected for the aerospace engineering program. This rejection could have been a major setback, but he did not let it deter him. Instead, he pursued a degree in aeronautical engineering and eventually graduated with flying colors.

Kalam's journey took a major leap forward when he joined the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and later the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). He played a pivotal role in India's civilian space program and military missile development efforts. His contributions were instrumental in the successful development of India's indigenous satellite launch vehicle and ballistic missile systems.

Ultimately, Dr Kalam became the 11<sup>th</sup> President of India, serving from 2002 to 2007. His presidency was marked by his commitment to education, science and technology. He continued to inspire people, especially youth, with his vision and motivational speeches.

The story of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam is often shared to emphasize the importance of perseverance, hard work, and positive attitude in the face of challenges. His ability to

transform failures into stepping stones from success serves as an inspiration to many aspiring individuals.

## **SHREE NARENDRA MODI**

*Hard work never brings fatigue, it brings satisfaction.*

*- Shree Narendra Modi*

Narendra Modi's ascent from humble beginnings to India's Prime Minister is a tale of determination and political prowess. Born in 1950 to a lower income family in Gujarat, Modi's early life was marked by financial struggles. His interest in politics grew during his time with the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) where he developed organizational and leadership skills.

Joining Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) in the 1980s, Modi worked tirelessly at the grassroots level, eventually becoming the Chief Minister of Gujarat in 2001. Despite controversy surrounding the 2002 Gujarat Riots, his focus on economic development and governance with voters, leading to his national performance.

In 2014, Modi secured a historic victory in the general elections, becoming the 14<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister of India. His tenure has been marked with initiatives like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and Make in India with focus on economic growth and infrastructure development. While admired for his decisiveness, charisma, and transformative vision, Modi has faced criticism on religious and social fronts.

Modi's journey showcases the complexities of Indian politics, illustrating how effective leadership and resilience can propel someone from modest beginnings to the pinnacle of political power.

## **MAHENDRA SINGH DHONI**

Mahendra Singh Dhoni, popularly known as MS Dhoni, is one of the most successful and revered cricketers in the history of Indian cricket. His journey from a small town in Jharkhand to becoming the captain of the Indian cricket team and leading the squad to numerous victories is an inspiring tale of determination, hard work, and resilience.

Here's a brief overview of MS Dhoni's failure-to-success story:

MS Dhoni was born on July 7, 1981, in Ranchi, Jharkhand. Coming from a modest background, he faced financial constraints during his early years. Despite his love for cricket, he initially worked as a ticket collector at Kharagpur railway station. Balancing his job and cricket practice was a challenging task, but Dhoni's dedication to the sport kept him going.

Dhoni's talent was recognized in domestic cricket, especially during his stint with the Bihar (now Jharkhand) team. His aggressive batting style and exceptional wicketkeeping skills caught the attention of selectors. He earned a spot in the India A team and later made his debut for the Indian cricket team in December 2004.

One of the turning points in Dhoni's career was when he was appointed as the captain of the Indian cricket team in 2007. Under his leadership, India achieved significant milestones, including the historic victory in the inaugural ICC World Twenty20 in 2007 and the No. 1 ranking in Test cricket.

Dhoni's defining moment came in the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup. He led the Indian team to glory, securing the country's second World Cup title after a gap of 28 years. Dhoni's calm demeanor and exceptional captaincy, combined with his match-winning performances, made him a national hero.

Dhoni continued to excel in limited-overs formats, guiding India to victories in the ICC Champions Trophy in 2013 and numerous bilateral series. His finishing abilities with the bat and astute captaincy became hallmarks of his career.

MS Dhoni announced his retirement from Test cricket in 2014 and from limited-overs cricket in 2020. His captaincy and contributions to Indian cricket have left an indelible mark. Dhoni is celebrated not only for his on-field achievements but also for his calmness under pressure and his ability to nurture young talent.

MS Dhoni's journey from a small-town cricketer facing financial challenges to one of the most successful and admired captains in the history of Indian cricket is a testament to his grit and determination. His story serves as an inspiration for aspiring cricketers and individuals facing challenges in their pursuit of success.

## AMITABH BACHCHAN

Amitabh Bachchan, often referred to as the "Shahenshah of Bollywood," is a legendary actor in the Indian film industry. His journey from facing setbacks to achieving iconic status is a tale of resilience, perseverance, and ultimate success.

Amitabh Bachchan was born on October 11, 1942, in Allahabad, India. Despite being the son of renowned poet Harivansh Rai Bachchan, success didn't come easy for him in the film industry. His initial foray into Bollywood saw a series of failures with films like "Saat Hindustani."

The turning point in Bachchan's career came with the film "Zanjeer" in 1973. His intense portrayal of the character Vijay marked a departure from the romantic roles he had played earlier. The film was a massive success and established Amitabh Bachchan as the "Angry Young Man" of Bollywood.

Following the success of "Zanjeer," Amitabh delivered a string of hits like "Deewar," "Sholay," "Chupke Chupke," and "Don." His unique baritone voice, towering screen presence, and versatile acting skills made him the undisputed superstar of the Indian film industry.

Despite his immense success on the silver screen, Bachchan faced financial troubles in the late 1980s. His venture into film production with Amitabh Bachchan Corporation Limited (ABCL) proved to be a significant failure. The company faced bankruptcy, and Bachchan found himself burdened with debt.

In the early 2000s, Bachchan made a comeback not just in films but also on television with the iconic game show "Kaun Banega Crorepati." The show's success not only rejuvenated his career but also showcased his ability to connect with audiences in a new medium.

Post his stint with KBC, Bachchan experienced a resurgence in his film career with movies like "Mohabbatein," "Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham," and "Black." His willingness to take on diverse roles and experiment with his craft further solidified his legendary status.

Over the years, Amitabh Bachchan has continued to deliver powerful performances in films like "Piku," "Pink," and "Badla." He has received numerous awards and honors, including the Dadasaheb Phalke Award and the Padma Vibhushan, for his contribution to Indian cinema.

Amitabh Bachchan's journey from early struggles and setbacks to becoming an icon in the film industry is a testament to his tenacity, talent, and ability to reinvent himself. His resilience in the face of adversity and his dedication to his craft have made him a living legend in Indian cinema.

## **HENRY FORD**

Henry Ford, the founder of Ford Motor Company, is a notable figure in the history of the automotive industry. His journey from facing failures to revolutionizing the automobile manufacturing process and achieving unprecedented success is a classic tale of persistence and innovation.

Henry Ford's early attempts at creating successful automobile companies faced repeated failures. His first company, the Detroit Automobile Company, and later the Henry Ford Company, both encountered financial difficulties and closed down.

In 1903, Henry Ford, along with a group of investors, founded the Ford Motor Company. Initially, the company faced challenges, and Ford's business strategies were met with skepticism.

One of Ford's most significant contributions to the automotive industry was the introduction of the assembly line in 1913. This revolutionary manufacturing process allowed cars to be produced more efficiently and at a lower cost. The Model T, introduced in 1908, became highly popular due to its affordability, thanks to the assembly line.

Henry Ford's vision was to make cars affordable for the average person. By implementing mass production techniques, he was able to reduce the time and cost of manufacturing, making automobiles accessible to a broader market.

The success of the Model T was unparalleled. It became a symbol of innovation and accessibility, and Ford Motor Company became a dominant force in the automotive industry. The affordability of the Model T made car ownership a reality for millions of Americans.



Despite the success, Ford faced challenges and controversies, including labor disputes and criticisms of his business practices. However, his impact on the automotive industry and manufacturing processes remained undeniable.

Henry Ford's legacy extends beyond the automotive industry. His innovative approach to manufacturing influenced various industries worldwide. The Ford Motor Company continued to thrive under his leadership, and his principles of mass production and standardization became industry standards.

In addition to his contributions to business and manufacturing, Henry Ford was involved in philanthropy. He established the Ford Foundation in 1936, which became one of the world's largest and most influential philanthropic organizations.

Henry Ford's story is a classic example of perseverance and innovation. Despite early setbacks and failures, his determination to make automobiles accessible to the masses led to the transformation of the automotive industry and the establishment of a lasting legacy.

## **SANDEEP MAHESHWARI**

Sandeep Maheshwari is a successful entrepreneur, motivational speaker, and the founder of Images Bazaar, one of the world's largest collections of Indian images. His journey from facing challenges and failures to becoming a prominent motivational speaker and entrepreneur is an inspiring story.

Sandeep Maheshwari faced challenges early in his life, including financial struggles and the need to support his family. Despite these challenges, he pursued his education but did not complete his college degree.

Maheshwari tried his hand at various entrepreneurial ventures, including modeling and photography. However, these ventures did not yield the desired success, leading to financial setbacks.

Sandeep Maheshwari's attempt at a career in modeling did not go as planned. He faced rejection and realized that the modeling industry was not where he wanted to build his future.

In 2006, Maheshwari founded Images Bazaar, a stock photo website that focuses on providing images of Indian models for businesses and individuals. This venture turned out to be a game-changer and eventually became one of the largest image banks in the world.

Alongside his entrepreneurial journey, Sandeep Maheshwari discovered his passion for motivational speaking. He started sharing his insights and experiences on success, failure, and life through seminars and online videos.

Sandeep Maheshwari's motivational talks gained widespread popularity on various online platforms. His ability to connect with people through simple yet profound messages resonated with a broad audience, making him a sought-after motivational speaker in India.

Maheshwari is known for conducting free motivational seminars to inspire and empower people. He emphasizes the importance of a positive mindset, self-belief, and continuous learning. Additionally, he has been involved in philanthropic activities.

Sandeep Maheshwari's online presence, including his YouTube channel and website, has grown exponentially. His videos cover a range of topics, from motivation to entrepreneurship, and have garnered millions of views.

Sandeep Maheshwari's journey from facing early failures and financial struggles to founding a successful venture like Images Bazaar and becoming a prominent motivational speaker reflects his resilience and determination. His commitment to empowering others with motivational messages has had a positive impact on countless individuals seeking inspiration and guidance in their own journeys.

## **CA NEHA DATTA**

<https://www.youtube.com/@CANEHADATTA>

This is about the incredible CA Neha Dutta, a true testament to the power of perseverance and resilience. At the tender age of 17, she embarked on a journey that would define her as a winner and an inspiration for many. The year 2021 marked a significant turning point in Neha's life. After facing the sting of failure in the highly challenging CA Exam nine times, she emerged victorious, securing a coveted position in one of India's Big Four accounting firms. Her story is a beacon of hope for anyone grappling with setbacks and uncertainties.

Hailing from DDPS, Ashok Nagar, Delhi, Neha's academic journey faced hurdles, with less-than-stellar board exam results. Undeterred, she set her sights high, enrolling in the Chartered Accountant Course at the age of 17 while concurrently pursuing studies at Delhi University for Open Learning. In an ideal scenario, Neha's path through the three stages of the CA exam—CPT, INTERMEDIATE, and CA FINAL—would have been smooth. However, destiny had other plans. Like a true warrior, she faced failure not once, not twice, but nine times. Yet, on the tenth attempt, she emerged triumphant.

Beyond her achievements in the field of finance, Neha is a multi-faceted individual. A writer, blogger, dancer, public speaker, and YouTuber, she has transcended traditional boundaries. Her literary pursuits extend to book reviews, and she showcases her versatile talent as a voiceover artist. Notably, Neha has graced the National Conference for CA students, built a community of 22K+ followers on LinkedIn, and clinched victories in dance and poetry competitions.

## **SADHGURU**

Sadhguru, whose real name is Jaggi Vasudev, is an Indian yogi, mystic, and spiritual leader. His journey from a young boy growing up in rural India to the founder of the Isha Foundation and an internationally renowned spiritual teacher is a story marked by various experiences, challenges, and transformative moments. Sadhguru was born on September 3, 1957, in Mysuru, Karnataka, India. Even as a child, he showed an inclination towards spirituality and would often spend time in contemplation and meditation. At the age of 25, Sadhguru had a profound spiritual experience on the Chamundi Hill in Mysuru. This experience marked his enlightenment and set him on a mission to share his inner experience with the world.

In 1992, Sadhguru founded the Isha Foundation, a non-profit organization that offers yoga programs and social outreach initiatives. The foundation's headquarters, known as the Isha Yoga Center, is situated in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. Sadhguru developed the Inner Engineering program, which includes yogic practices and meditation techniques aimed at promoting physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. This program gained popularity globally and has been attended by millions of people.

Sadhguru faced challenges and skepticism, both within India and internationally, regarding his teachings and the Isha Foundation's activities. However, he continued to focus on his mission of spreading spiritual awareness and well-being. Sadhguru consecrated the Dhyanalinga, a unique meditative space, and the Linga Bhairavi, a powerful feminine energy center, at the Isha Yoga Center. These consecrations have become important spiritual landmarks. In 2017, Sadhguru initiated the "Rally for Rivers" campaign, advocating for sustainable water management in India. The campaign aimed to address the depleting rivers in the country and garnered widespread support.

Sadhguru has been invited to speak at various international forums, including the United Nations, educational institutions, and corporate events. His talks and programs have reached a global audience, contributing to his recognition as a spiritual leader.

Sadhguru's journey is characterized by a deep spiritual quest, profound inner experiences, and a commitment to sharing transformative practices with the world. While he faced challenges and opposition, his dedication to spiritual well-being and his initiatives in areas like education, environment, and social outreach have contributed to his success as a spiritual leader on the global stage.

## **ASHNEER GROVER**

Ashneer Grover is an entrepreneur and co-founder of BharatPe, a fintech company based in India. Please note that developments in individuals' lives can occur after this date, and I may not have the most recent information on Ashneer Grover. If there have been significant changes or events in his life or career since then, I recommend checking the latest and reliable sources for the most up-to-date information. Ashneer Grover co-founded BharatPe in 2018 with Shashvat Nakrani. The company focuses on providing digital payment solutions for small and medium-sized businesses in India. It aims to simplify and enhance the payment process for merchants.

Before co-founding BharatPe, Ashneer Grover had a background in finance. He has worked with companies like Citibank, Yes Bank, and Kotak Mahindra Bank. His experience in the financial sector likely played a role in his venture into the fintech space.

Ashneer Grover has been known for his outspoken and sometimes controversial statements. There have been instances where he has been involved in public disputes,

both online and offline. These controversies have brought attention to him and, in some cases, to BharatPe as a company.

BharatPe gained attention in the Indian fintech landscape for its rapid growth and its focus on providing UPI-based payment solutions to merchants. The company has raised significant funding from investors, reflecting confidence in its business model.

## **THOMAS EDISON**

Thomas Edison, one of the most prolific inventors in history, faced numerous failures and setbacks on his path to success. Thomas Alva Edison was born on February 11, 1847, in Milan, Ohio, USA. He had hearing difficulties from a young age and received little formal education. Despite these challenges, Edison developed a passion for learning and experimentation.

Edison's early forays into entrepreneurship involved selling newspapers and operating a candy and fruit stand on a train. His first major setback occurred when a chemical experiment in a train's baggage car caused a fire. The incident led to his dismissal from the railway. Edison's interest in telegraphy led him to work as a telegraph operator. He made improvements to the telegraph system and invented the quadruplex telegraph, a device that could transmit multiple messages simultaneously on a single wire. Despite this success, Edison struggled financially. Edison established an invention factory in Menlo Park, New Jersey, where he aimed to invent something new every ten days. In 1877, he invented the phonograph, a device capable of recording and reproducing sound. While a groundbreaking achievement, the initial reception was slow, and Edison faced challenges in commercializing it.

Edison's most famous invention is the practical electric light bulb. He experimented with various materials for the filament and finally developed a bulb that could be used for practical, long-lasting illumination. The process involved numerous trials and errors, with Edison famously stating that he hadn't failed but had found "10,000 ways that won't work."

Edison became embroiled in the "War of the Currents," advocating for direct current (DC) while opposing alternating current (AC), championed by Nikola Tesla and George Westinghouse. Despite Edison's efforts, AC ultimately became the dominant electrical distribution system.

Edison went on to hold over a thousand patents and made significant contributions to various fields, including the motion picture camera and the alkaline storage battery. His legacy as an inventor and entrepreneur is immense, and he is remembered for his perseverance, innovation, and impact on modern technology.

Thomas Edison's journey was characterized by resilience, a relentless work ethic, and the ability to learn from failures. His willingness to experiment, coupled with an indomitable spirit, eventually led to transformative inventions that shaped the world's technological landscape.

## **BEETHOVEN**

Ludwig van Beethoven, the legendary composer and pianist, faced numerous challenges and setbacks throughout his life. His journey from adversity to musical genius is a testament to his indomitable spirit and unwavering passion for music. Beethoven was born on December 16, 1770, in Bonn, Germany. His family faced financial difficulties, and his father, who recognized his musical talent, started teaching him music at a young age. Beethoven's harsh upbringing and his father's alcoholism contributed to a challenging environment.

One of the most significant obstacles Beethoven faced was the gradual loss of his hearing, starting in his late twenties. Despite this debilitating condition, he continued to compose and perform. His ability to create masterpieces despite being almost completely deaf is a remarkable aspect of his story. Beethoven moved to Vienna in 1792 to study with Joseph Haydn and further his musical career. Initially, he faced challenges gaining recognition and establishing himself as a composer. Vienna was highly competitive, and Beethoven struggled financially.

Beethoven faced personal challenges, including strained relationships and unrequited love. His difficult temperament and social awkwardness contributed to a sense of isolation. Beethoven's breakthrough came with his Symphony No. 3, "Eroica," which marked a departure from classical norms and showcased his innovative and powerful style. His compositions, characterized by emotional depth and intensity, revolutionized classical music.

Despite increasing deafness, Beethoven continued to compose some of his most celebrated works, including the Ninth Symphony with the famous "Ode to Joy." These compositions, created during a period of profound personal turmoil, are considered some of the greatest achievements in Western classical music. Beethoven's legacy extends far beyond his own time. His compositions bridged the classical and romantic eras, influencing countless musicians and composers. His ability to convey emotion through music and his pioneering spirit have left an indelible mark on the world of classical music.

Beethoven's life is a compelling narrative of triumph over adversity. Despite facing personal and physical challenges, he continued to create music that transcended his own time, leaving an enduring legacy that continues to inspire and move people around the world.

## **KAROLY TAKACS**

Karoly Takacs, a Hungarian sports shooter, encountered a profound setback in pursuit of his Olympic dreams when a grenade explosion severely injured his right hand during a military exercise. This incident, which could have marked the end of his competitive shooting career, instead became the catalyst for an awe-inspiring journey of resilience and triumph.

Undeterred by the loss of his dominant hand, Takacs made a courageous decision to train his left hand secretly. This dedication to his craft was not just an act of physical training but a testament to the indomitable spirit within him. In a story that reads like a script from a Hollywood film, Takacs made a stunning comeback, surprising the sports world by winning a gold medal at the 1948 London Olympics. The triumph in London was not a one-time feat. Takacs's journey of overcoming adversity continued, and he secured another gold medal in the 1952 Helsinki Olympics. This remarkable achievement wasn't just about winning medals; it was a proclamation of the power of determination and the refusal to be defined by circumstances.

Karoly Takacs's story resonates as a beacon of inspiration, demonstrating that setbacks can be transformed into stepping stones towards extraordinary accomplishments. His life narrative teaches us that challenges, no matter how insurmountable they may seem, can be overcome with unwavering perseverance and a belief in one's capabilities.

Beyond the realm of sports, Takacs's journey serves as a universal parable, urging individuals to view setbacks not as the end of a dream but as a chapter in a story of eventual triumph. It encourages us to embrace challenges, recognizing them as opportunities for growth and self-discovery.

In the grand tapestry of life, Karoly Takacs's legacy isn't just confined to the medals he won but extends to the countless hearts he continues to inspire. His story prompts us to reflect on our own hurdles and empowers us to face them with courage, tenacity, and an unyielding belief in the resilience of the human spirit.

## **SWETA**

Sweta's journey is a testament to the extraordinary resilience that resides within the human spirit. Growing up amidst financial challenges and the health struggles of her parents, she faced hurdles that could have easily derailed her dreams. However, Sweta, fueled by an unwavering determination, embraced her struggles as stepping stones rather than stumbling blocks. With a heart full of perseverance, she navigated the storm of uncertainty, dedicating herself to her education against all odds. Today, having triumphed over adversity, Sweta stands tall as an Information Technology engineer, a beacon of inspiration for countless others facing similar trials. Her story echoes the common yet potent narrative of many children in India, illustrating that no obstacle is insurmountable when met with courage and resilience. Sweta's journey is not just about personal triumph; it's about a relentless spirit that defies circumstances and transforms challenges into opportunities. Now, as she supports her parents in their old age, Sweta's story is a powerful reminder that with tenacity, one can emerge from the shadows of struggle into the radiant light of success.

## **MARK TWAIN**

Mark Twain, born Samuel Langhorne Clemens, encountered a series of challenges on his path to becoming an esteemed American writer. Growing up in a financially struggling family, he faced the necessity of leaving school at a young age after his father's death. Undeterred, Twain aspired to become a riverboat pilot, investing time and effort in learning navigation intricacies. However, the outbreak of the Civil War abruptly ended his riverboat dreams.



Undaunted by setbacks, Twain sought fortune in Nevada's silver mines, only to witness the failure of his mining venture, resulting in financial difficulties. Despite these challenges, he found his calling in journalism. Twain's career as a journalist honed his distinctive writing style and laid the groundwork for his later success as a writer. His breakthrough came in 1865 with "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County," a humorous short story that catapulted him into literary acclaim.

Twain's literary prowess continued to flourish with works like "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" (1876) and the groundbreaking "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" (1885). These novels cemented his status as a master storyteller and a keen social commentator. Leveraging his newfound fame, Twain embarked on a successful career as a lecturer, traveling globally and sharing his humorous insights on life and society. His legacy endures, not just as a writer but as a cultural icon whose journey from adversity to literary greatness inspires generations.

*You may fail many times, but just one success is needed to change your life forever.*

Failure leads to Innovation. You try something and fail at it. You try something again based on past experiences; you fail again at it. You think you are failing, but the failures are steps to success. There has been enough talks about success, but we will talk about a stage in your journey which comes before success. This stage is innovation.

Without Innovation even if you got successful, your success won't be of the next level. For you to achieve higher levels of success you need to work on creating something extraordinary. Something which is in demand, and is unique solution to existing problems. If you can solve the problems of masses, your success will reach new heights. And, for this to happen you may fail one or more number of times.

But for your failures to be really the stepping stones to success, you need to look back on your failed attempts, list your reasons for failure and try not to repeat them. Also, you must develop the skill to learn from others' failures.

Every time failing at your own attempts may not be a wise idea. You should learn and understand from other's failure experiences and only then you can work on improving your failure plans.

Remember, you don't fail alone, many people like you keep failing again and again in an endeavor to be successful one day.

When you are able to evolve from failure to improved and experienced planning towards your success goals, the innovation stage is achieved within the process. You will achieve a unique idea with the past iterative try-fail-improve-retry process.

Going through all this you will learn to welcome changes; you will learn and evolve. Just keep a record of your attempts and you will see, how learning from your failures lets you grow in your journey.

Success is nothing but eventual graduation of the above process. It's the process which is important. Everyone wants to be successful, but not everyone enjoys to process. If you

start enjoying your failures to day, and learn, evolve, plan, then one day you will achieve success through innovation.

On that day people around, you will admire you and want to be like you. You will be amazed that many of those people won't ever like to fail like you and therefore can't be like you.

And it's a final word for you too – if you want to be successful like others, learn to fail like they did.

Take Care

Love

Yash Raj Karthikey

## WHY I WROTE THIS BOOK

In my early years, life threw a curveball—losing my mom at 11. Back then, I didn't grasp the magnitude of the loss until I searched for her, hoping for a simple Harry Potter book, only to find she wasn't there. Left in the care of relatives by my struggling father, I faced a challenging childhood.

During my lowest moments, animated shows like Doraemon and the magical world of Harry Potter sparked imaginative ideas. What if I could build a time machine or find a wand to bring my mom back? Yet, as I immersed myself in these fantasies, life took a new turn.

Inspired by Stephen Hawking's cosmic explorations on TV, I delved into biology and embarked on experiments. Funding became a hurdle, leading me to the world of programming. But the journey was rocky—lost funds, encounters with hackers—prompting a shift in perspective.

I realized chasing the past was futile. Redirecting my focus, I dived into tech and programming with a new purpose: to create something impactful and make my mom proud. This shift marked a turning point.

What I discovered along the way is that failure isn't the end; it's feedback. It's not about blame or distractions; it's about facing failure, learning its lessons, and using them to move forward.

In this book, my journey unfolds, showing that setbacks are not roadblocks but opportunities for growth. It's a reminder that our unique path, shaped by pain and purpose, is a continuous evolution. May this story inspire you to face challenges head-on, transforming pain into a driving force for positive change.

## CONNECT

- Community : <https://groups.google.com/g/the-power-of-failure>
- Google Sites : <https://sites.google.com/view/yashrajkarthikey/home>
- Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/yashrajkarthikeyfb>
- LinkedIn : <https://www.linkedin.com/in/yashrajkarthikey/>
- YouTube : [https://www.youtube.com/@yashraj\\_karthikey](https://www.youtube.com/@yashraj_karthikey)
- Buy Me A Coffee : <https://www.buymeacoffee.com/yashraj>

## ISHA KRIYA

Isha Kriya is a simple yet potent process rooted in the timeless wisdom of the Yogic Sciences. Offered by Sadhguru, it has potential to transform the life of anyone willing to invest just 12 minutes a day.

The purpose of Isha Kriya is to help an individual get in touch with the source of his existence, to create life according to his wish and vision. Daily practice of Isha Kriya helps to bring health, dynamism, peace and wellbeing. It is a powerful tool to cope with the hectic pace of modern life.

Today, for most people, the word “yoga” usually conjures up images of twisting the body into impossible postures. The physical aspect of yoga is only one facet of this multi-dimensional science. Yoga is a technology to bring the body and mind to the peak of their capabilities – allowing one to live life to the fullest.

It is Sadhguru’s vision to offer “one drop of spirituality” to every individual. Through the Isha Kriya guided meditation, the possibilities of a spiritual process can now be offered to every human being in the comfort of their own home.

***<https://isha.sadhguru.org/in/en/yoga-meditation/yoga-program-for-beginners/isha-kriya-meditation>***

“Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light.”

Albus Dumbledore



“If everything around seems dark, look again, you maybe the **light.**”

Rumi